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PATENT ABSTRACTS OF JAPAN

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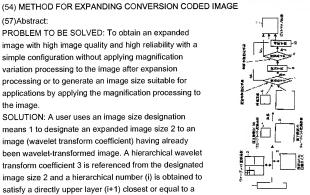
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(57)Abstract:

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PROBLEM TO BE SOLVED: To obtain an expanded image with high image quality and high reliability with a simple configuration without applying magnification variation processing to the image after expansion processing or to generate an image size suitable for applications by applying the magnification processing to the image.

SOLUTION: A user uses an image size designation means 1 to designate an expanded image size 2 to an image (wavelet transform coefficient) having already been wavelet-transformed image. A hierarchical wavelet transform coefficient 3 is referenced from the designated image size 2 and a hierarchical number (i) is obtained to satisfy a directly upper layer (i+1) closest or equal to a



designated expanded image size in terms of an inner size and a directly lower layer (i) closest to the designated expanded image size greater than the expanded image size or equal thereto. The hierarchical inverse wavelet transform is applied to the image from the highest layer to the layer (i+1) or to the layer (i) to obtain an expanded image 6. Furthermore, the magnification variation processing to magnify the expanded image 6 to the image size designated by the user is conducted to obtain a bit map image 11.